

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-10 PM-03

L-02 SCEM-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00

USIE-00 PRS-01 DODE-00 ACDA-10 OMB-01 SPC-01 COME-00

TRSE-00 NEA-06 EURE-00 DRC-01 /075 W

----- 042448

O R 201855Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8833

INFO AMCONSUL HAMBURG

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T BONN 16817

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENIG, GW

SUBJECT: PROSPECTIVE SHARP REDUCTION IN EXXON SUPPLY
OF HEATING OIL TO US FORCES IN FRG

1. ESSO GERMANY HAS ANNOUNCED A 63 PERCENT CUT AS OF
DECEMBER 1 IN ITS HEATING OIL DELIVERIES TO US FORCES
IN FRG. ESSO SUPPLIES ABOUT 65 PERCENT OF HEATING OIL
REQUIREMENT FOR US MILITARY POSTS, CAMPS AND STATIONS
IN FRG. ESSO HAS TOLD CONSULATE GENERAL HAMBURG THAT
THIS CONTEMPLATED ACTION, WHICH RELATED TO US FORCES
INCLUSION IN ARAB BOYCOTT OF US, IS PENDING APPROVAL BY
EXXON NEW YORK.

2. EMBASSY IS NOT CLEAR REGARDING ESSO'S OR EXXON'S
MOTIVES FOR MAKING THIS DRASTIC CUTBACK. ESSO'S
SEVERAL REFINERIES IN FRG AND THEIR DIVERSE CRUDE

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SOURCES SHOULD GIVE COMPANY CONSIDERABLE LEEWAY TO ALTER

OR OBFUSCATESOURCE OF CRUDE FOR HEATING OIL DELIVER-
IES TO US MILITARY. BUT CONTEMPLATED ACTION SEEMS TO
INDICATE NO EFFORT TO PURSUE THIS COURSE. ONE POSSI-
BILITY IS THAT EXXON (OR ESSO HAMBURG) IS ATTEMPTING
TO FORCE CONSUMER GOVERNMENTS (INCLUDING US AND
FRG), ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, TO TAKE ON RESPONSIBILITY FOR
FUDGING ON ARAB BOYCOTT INSTRUCTIONS.

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT TAKE UP THIS PROBLEM WITH EXXON
NEW YORK, WHERE DECISION WILL BE MADE, TO SEEK WAY TO
AVOID SEVERE HARDSHIP TO MILITARY FORCES AND DEPENDENTS,
WITH LIKELY IMPLICATIONS FOR GENERAL MILITARY PRE-
PAREDNESS POSTURE.
HILLENBRAND

SECRET

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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